



The **purpose** of the Utah Commission on Service and Volunteerism is to enable individuals, communities and organizations in Utah to benefit from the service, power, skills, and passion of volunteers. Our **mission** is to strengthen Utah communities through the power of service and volunteerism. Our **vision** is vibrant, productive communities with active, engaged citizens.

Minutes

COMMISSION MEETING
March 16, 2017
2:00 to 4:00 P.M.
Capitol Board Room

ATTENDEES

Commissioners

Lt. Gov. Spencer Cox
Dave Clark
Richard Gonzalez
Debbie Hardy
Jacob Murakami
Jill Love

Lindsey Kneuen
Paul Leggett
Rep. Becky Edwards
Vikram Ravi

Visitors:

Debora Hoyt
Levi Webb

Staff

LaDawn Stoddard
Greg Bates
Anna Decker
Kate Hulme
Ruqia Qasim
Mary Buehler

WELCOME

Motion to approve January minutes made by Dave Clark. Seconded by Lt. Gov. Spencer Cox. Vote carried unanimous.

Commission chair Debbie Hardy started off the meeting by welcoming everyone. Commissioners went around the table and introduced themselves. Staff did so as well.

Updates from LaDawn: The AmeriCorps member gathering will be held at the Zermatt resort on March 22nd in Midway. All commissioners are invited to attend.

April 4th is Mayor and County day of recognition, Jake Murakami gave a brief overview of what this day is about. Mayor and county recognition day for national service is a day where locally elected officials recognize AmeriCorps members for what they do in the community. The goal is to educate local officials on the impact that national service has in their communities. The goal this year is to get 4000 locally elected officials signed on nationwide. Jake asked commissioners to help reach out to county officials or mayors in their areas.

Another event that is happening on April 4th is an impact summit hosted by UNA in southern Utah. LaDawn will be attending this event.

Debbie and LaDawn were in DC for America's Service Commission Leadership Convening Conference. There, they met with other commissioners from different states, and shared best practices.

The presidential budget was released this morning for fiscal year 2018. A list of agencies up for budget cuts or eliminations of funding was revealed, and our federal funding agency: The Corporation for National and Community

Service (CNCS) is included in that list. If an elimination of funding is to be decided, then all funding streams for SeniorCorps, VISTA, AmeriCorps on the national and state level, and Social Innovation Fund will be gone. LaDawn shared a statement that was sent to us by our federal agency –CNCS- in regards to this matter which she will forward to all commissioners. She will also forward other important information as we get updates. She also received a sign on letter from the American Association of State Service Commissions that addressed the importance of fully funding AmeriCorps, SeniorCorps, state service commissions, and all the programs of CNCS in the FY 18 appropriations legislation. Commissioners nationwide will have their names signed on to this letter, but LaDawn asked commissioners to let her know if they do not want their names to be included. The letter will be sent to Senate Majority leader Mitch McConnell, Senate Minority Leader Charles Schumer, Speaker Paul Ryan, and Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi.

Levi Webb, director of The Association for Utah Community Health AmeriCorps (AUCH) program did a presentation on his program. The Utah Health Care Corps is one of fifteen programs that specifically focuses on the healthy futures performance measure. Their mission is to remove barriers to quality and affordable health care. This program has had over 500 AmeriCorps members providing over a million hours of service. Levi explained that his AmeriCorps members are placed at host sites, where they are trained and provided with tools they need to be able to do outreach, enrollment, and application assistance for Medicaid, Medicare, CHIP, Obama care...etc. They also teach their clients on how to access primary care in their community health centers, and clinics. AUCH AmeriCorps members have been able to garner about 6 million dollars in donated medical services for people who are uninsured. Levi recently submitted an application for an AmeriCorps grant at the competitive level with a focus on the Opioid epidemic that is happening in Utah.

Debbie highlighted and shared a couple of things from our annual report 2016. She focused on sharing the trainings that we do, as well as some of the initiatives that we took on, and service projects that we've been involved with. She encouraged commissioners to read our whole annual report to see what UServeUtah has been working on.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

National Service Program Manager Greg Bates and Commissioner Dave Clark gave the committee report for the National Service program. The report consisted of the following: the next Dialogues in Action training for the AmeriCorps program directors will be held on March 28th. The AmeriCorps Notice of Funding Opportunity was released for those interested in applying. Outreach meetings are going to be held from March 29th - April 7th. Nonprofit organizations who are interested in applying for an AmeriCorps grant, must attend one of those meetings. Once applications are in, commissioners who are interested in reviewing applications will be a part of this process during the months of May and June. LaDawn will reach out to commissioners interested and will provide more information. Andrew Schwartz and John Schmidt were awarded AmeriCorps member of the month for February and March. Certificates of recognition are awarded at the members' service sites. If commissioners are interested in being a part of the recognition process, please contact Greg for more information.

Community Engagement Manager Anna Decker and Commissioner Vikram Ravi gave the committee report for the Community Engagement program. The report consisted of the following: the latest volunteer management training was held on March 13th-14th, and a Museums volunteer management training was held on March 15th in St. George. The upcoming volunteer management training will be held in Salt Lake City on May 11th-12th. Anna talked about the results of our statewide survey on volunteerism that was done last year, and focused specifically on the topic of involving rural communities, refugee communities, families, ethnic minorities, and veterans in volunteerism. Commissioners shared their thoughts on this topic, and this comprised the rest of the meeting.

WRAP-UP

LaDawn will send out information about the AmeriCorps grant applications timeline.

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn made by Lindsey Kneuen, seconded by Debbie Hardy. Motion carried unanimously.